

Faculty Senate Report—April 15, 2014
Outstanding Faculty Activities & Accomplishments

Nelson Rusche College of Business

- Dr. Charlotte Allen, professor of marketing, was recognized as one of the “Top 100 Marketing Professors on Twitter” by *Social Media Marketing* magazine.
- Dr. Mike Stroup, professor of economics, received a \$5,000 research grant from the Koch Charitable Foundation.
- Dr. Treba Marsh, professor of accounting, received the Outstanding Educator Award from the Southwest Region of the American Accounting Association.
- Dr. Marlene Kahla, associate professor of marketing, received the Distinguished Research Award at the Allied Academies conference.
- Dr. Ann Wilson, professor and chair of Business Communication and Legal Studies, is serving as vice-president and program chair-elect for the Federation of Business Disciplines.
- The Office of Financial Counseling has opened as a result of a gift from the Charles and Lois Marie Bright Foundation. Dr. Banker Phares, senior lecturer of economics and finance, directs the program.

James I. Perkins College of Education

- Dr. Nancy Shepherd, assistant professor of human sciences, partnered with Admissions, Gear Up, and TSI to host the Counselor’s Connection event this semester. Counselors from surrounding schools attended the event, and coordinators from Human Sciences presented on their programs.
- Dr. Mitzi Perritt, professor of human sciences, recently achieved fellow status with the Interior Design Educators Council. Fellow status is a Professional Membership category designed to honor an IDEC member who has made an outstanding contribution to the Interior Design Educators Council and shall be identified by the use of the initials FIDEC.
- Drs. Nagalapura Viswanath, Frank Brister, Kelly Jobe, and other faculty from human services successfully showcased how the graduate program meets the Council on Academic Accreditation for Speech-Language Pathology and earned re-accreditation for another eight years.
- Dr. Nina Ellis-Hervey, assistant professor of school psychology, has successfully involved doctoral students in scholarship that will result in two conference presentations at the Mission Possible Mental Health Conference, which will be hosted by SFA next month.

College of Fine Arts

- The SFA Wind Ensemble performed for the convention of the Texas Music Educators Association, which marked the tenth appearance by the SFA band. The last five performances were under the direction of Dr. Fred J. Allen, professor of music and director of bands.
- 2013 and 2014 contain an unprecedented number of activities for Dr. Stephen Lias, professor of composition. In addition to performances and professional appearances in Russia, Australia, Vienna, Alaska, Sweden, Slovakia, and Poland, he has upcoming world premieres by the East Texas Symphony Orchestra, the Texas Flute Society, the SFA Wind Ensemble, and the Boulder Philharmonic. He also leads “Composing in the Wilderness,” an unusual workshop for adventurous composers offered by Alaska Geographic and the Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival.
- Dr. Andrew Parr, professor of piano, served on the faculty at the Vienna Piano Academy last summer in Vienna, Austria. In fall 2013, Parr’s piano graduate student Martha De Luna was invited to perform Liszt’s Hungarian Fantasie as piano soloist with the National Symphony of the Dominican Republic in Santo Domingo. In spring 2014, Parr performed complete piano solo recitals and presented master classes at Sam Houston State University, Baylor University, Southern Methodist University and at Hong Kong Baptist University.
- Jack Heifner, visiting professor and playwright-in-residence, was inducted into the Texas Playwriting Hall of Fame in 2014.

- One of America's finest classical saxophonists, Dr. Nathan Nabb, associate professor of music, recently performed the "Concerto for Saxophone Quartet and Wind Ensemble" with the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music Wind Orchestra and also gave a recital and master class while in residence. In late February, he performed Ravel's *Bolero* with the Minnesota Orchestra. Dr. Nabb also gave three performances at the North American Saxophone Alliance at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- Dr. Zach Hanks, assistant professor of theatre, voiced the character of 2nd Lt. Collins in the video game "Call of Duty: Ghosts." \$1 billion worth of units were sold to retail outlets in the first 24 hours after this game's release in 2013. This is the sixth title in the "Call of Duty" franchise for which Prof. Hanks has voice-acted.
- As immediate past-president of the Texas Educational Theatre Association, Lecturer Melissa McMillian-Cunningham continues her long service on the TETA Board of Directors in 2013-14.
- Assistant Professor of theatre Carolyn Conn developed and piloted a peer-mentoring plan to support student success and retention among theatre majors and presented preliminary results of the project at the International Annual Mentoring Conference at the University of New Mexico in 2013.

Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture

- The faculty-led SFA Gardens program recently held their semi-annual plant sale, bringing in a new record for sales in one day—over \$50,000—which is critical to sustaining the beauty of our campus and community and the student/instructional activities throughout the Gardens.
- The college's first-ever study abroad program to Sweden will commence in a few weeks. The university in Sweden is providing lodging and food for the entire group, lowering costs to our students in forestry and hospitality management. Additional study-abroad efforts continue by engaging specific universities in Sweden, Argentina, China, and the Netherlands, for example.
- After involving 800 alumni and employers through surveys and focus groups, the forestry faculty have completely restructured the curriculum, which has resulted in numerous publications, national conferences and two national workshops. Their work is being adopted as a national model for undergraduate forestry programs.

College of Liberal and Applied Arts

- Dr. Andrew Brininstool, assistant professor of English, received a \$25,000 creative writing fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts. He is but one of 38 writers across the country to win the fellowship.
- Pushcart Prize nominations went to Dr. Christine McDermott, Dr. Andrew Brininstool, and Dr. Mark Sanders. Those awards will be announced later this month.

College of Sciences and Mathematics

- Dr. Dan Bruton, professor of physics and associate dean of the college, authored the Engineering Physics Program proposal submitted to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The proposal passed through all approvals prior to the upcoming THECB meeting on April 24 during which it will be reviewed by the full board for final approval. The college anticipates approval of this Engineering Physics degree program with concentrations in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering.
- Faculty in the Department of Geology have re-designed the traditional field camp experience (6 semester credit hours) to accommodate students from other universities across the nation and serves as a recruiting tool for their graduate program.
- Dr. Sarah Canterbury, associate professor of biology, guided two undergraduate students through structured research experiences that brought honors as Top Scholars in the SFA Undergraduate Research Conference.
- Within the department of biology, Drs. Jenny Gumm, Matt Kwiatkowski, and Brent Burt have conducted sensory ecology research that earned the Spotlight Exhibit at the upcoming SFA Bright Ideas Conference.